

Call for Student Participation

Open Innovation Challenges for Students

The Sustainable City

05-08 May

Organized by University of Gothenburg



Co-funded by
the European Union

1. Overview: Description and Objectives

EUTOPIA MORE remains committed to promoting and defending the European dimension in Higher Education. This involves developing a model for the integration of European citizens and providing tools to improve knowledge of European cultures, languages, and values.

To achieve these objectives, EUTOPIA launches the next edition of the “Innovation Challenges,” entitled The Sustainable City, organized by the University of Gothenburg (GU). The programme will take place in a fully in-person format in Gothenburg from May 5 to May 8, 2026.

Gothenburg is internationally recognized for its long-term commitment to environmental and social sustainability, frequently ranking high in global sustainability indexes. As part of the EU initiative for climate-neutral and smart cities, Gothenburg aims to reach climate neutrality by 2030. Through interdisciplinary collaboration, participating students will develop innovative ideas to contribute to more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban environments.

1.1 Subthemes and Challenges

Students will explore case-based challenges in collaboration with external stakeholders across four key areas:

- **Sustainable Tourism (Göteborg & CO):** Finding ways for tourism to minimize negative impacts on the Gothenburg archipelago and actively support the wellbeing of the local community.
- **Sustainable Campus Development (Akademiska Hus):** Shaping vibrant, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable campus environments that meet the needs of students and staff during GU’s expansion.
- **Sustainable Movement (SMOVE):** Developing inclusive physical activity strategies for municipal schools to overcome social inequalities and resource limitations.
- **Sustainable Mobility (Göteborg Stad):** Working on a specific urban mobility case (details to be confirmed).

2. Admission Requirements

2.1. Applicants must be **bachelor (BA) or master (MA) students** from any discipline, regularly enrolled at one of the EUTOPIA partner universities. Prior knowledge or experience in the area is not required.

- 2.2. The selected candidates must hold the above-mentioned status both at the moment of application and when the *Innovation Challenges* take place. The International Office and the EUTOPIA office of each institution must be informed in due time of any possible change in their status.
- 2.3. To apply, students are required to **fill in the application form** provided for the *Innovation Challenges*.
- 2.4. **Ineligibility:** if, at any stage of the application procedure, it is established that the information provided by the applicant has been knowingly falsified, the candidate will be disqualified from the selection process.

3. Application Procedure

3.1. Application Procedure

Each university will select its 8 candidates through internal selection processes following the application and admission requirements established in this call.

3.2. Application Deadline: Deadline for applications will be established by each university according to their academic and administrative calendars.

4. Selection Process

4.1. Selection Committee: A selection committee will be established at each partner University who will assess the candidates' applications. As part of the selection process, an online interview may be scheduled.

4.2. Selection Criteria:

- **Balance among partner institutions:** the first criterion will be to ensure a fair balance in the number of selected students from each partner university.
- **Motivation to participate:** assessed on the basis of the information provided in the application form, considering the student's interest in and expected outcomes from the *Innovation Challenges*.
- **English language proficiency:** evaluated on the basis of the answers and clarity of expression in the application form.
- In the event of a tie, and at the discretion of the selection committee of each university, priority will be given to undergraduate students, and criteria of gender balance and disciplinary equilibrium will be applied.

4.3 Publication of results: The results of the selection committee will be communicated individually to those who apply. Selected students will need to contact via email the EUTOPIA Offices of their universities to confirm their participation.

5. Rights and Obligations of Selected Students

Selected students will have the obligation to:

- Actively participate in all activities organized as part of the Innovation Challenges programme including any online activities prior to the event in presence.

Selected students will have the right to:

- Attend the trainings and activity
- Have room, board and travel expenses to participate in the event covered by the EUTOPIA MORE Project (for full partner students)
- Have expenses covered by institutional funds according to institutional practice (for students from the Associate Partner or Global Partner institutions).

6. Timeline

Deadline for applications : March 23rd

Communication of the results : March 27th

Deadline for appeals: March 30th

Deadline for acceptance and confirmation of participation : March 31st

7. Data Protection

Information relating to individuals (personal data) is collected and used in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) n. 2016/679 of the European Commission, with regard to the processing of personal data by European institutions and organizations and the unrestricted circulation of such data.

8. Contact Information

For any inquiries or additional information on this call

- **Email:** eutopia@unl.pt